

**Remarks:**

1. Regarding the objections to the specification and drawings as indicated in items 1 and 2 of the Action, the applicant submits herein the amended specification pages and drawing sheets. Basically, the amendment is to delete the hyperlink on page 1, to correct the inconsistent reference numbers and their corresponding terms.
2. Regarding the objection to the claims as indicated in items 3 and 4, the amended claims have been submitted herein to include the modifications and/or correction, and also include the amendment of claims so as to emphasize on the patentable subject matter in view of the cited prior art.
3. With respect to the obviousness rejection of all pending claims 1-12 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Teare et al (U. S. Patent 6, 151, 624) in view of Wlaschin (U. S. Patent 6, 182, 121), the applicant would like to submit the following argument for the examiner's reconsideration.

Basically, Teare et al did not disclose a system or method of remote storage and access of personal or business information, but an Internet search system or method for finding a proper website through natural languages in lieu of URLs. In the past, the Internet resources or websites must be searched by using, in the browser, URLs, such as [http://www.\(domain names\).com](http://www.(domain names).com). RealNames is one of the early inventions that dealt with this matter. One of the present inventor or applicant's patent application is directed to how Chinese language is used to perform Internet resources search without using URLs. This will not be discussed here.

The present invention, however, is directed to the technology of a personal information management system that is different from mere searching of the Internet resources using natural languages instead of URLs. It focuses on the structure of a database for storing such personal and business information remotely, and the system and method of access of such information (not websites or Internet resources that is a broader term

for websites). Because of the different objects and different technical areas, the subject matter of the present invention should be different from the cited Patent of Teare et al.

In view of the substantial differences overall of Teare et al and the present invention, it is improper to draw the analogy of certain terms used in the present claims and the terms used in Teare et al. For instance, it is known that a "server" could perform many functions as it is structured or used. Thus, a "web server 60" is not quite the same as the claimed server of the present invention since they should perform different functions. Likewise, the "search engine" and the "crawler 24" are not exactly the same, and "database" and "local files 62" are not necessarily the same. A "hierarchical tree" may be used for all kinds of things so long as it is arranged in such a structure, but the directory tree of Teare et al is certainly for the "resources or URLs." Directory is a broader term, and there could be name directory, telephone directory, and any kinds of things for directories. Thus, such analogy is not proper. In any event, the claimed subject matter should be viewed a whole, but not be broken into terms for matching separately with similar terms used in the cited reference.

Turning now to the substances of the present invention and Teare et al, the differences include that the personal and business information stored in the database are arranged in a hierarchic tree and donated with a Hash table such that the search inquiry, which is usually composed of few characters or words, can be conducted to find the proper entry of the personal and business information in the database by way of not only accurate search but also a fuzzy search, but first the inquiry will be broken into a plurality of words (that may be composed of one or more Chinese characters if the inquiry is in Chinese). As mentioned above, the database stores personal and business information, but not URLs (the Internet resources), and thus the entries of such information will be certainly arranged in a different structure of a hierarchic tree from the URLs directory of Teare et al. Although the use of Hash table is known, the use of the same for the search of the personal and business information stored in the database is not readily known as it is applied for different purposes, such as the invention of Wlaschin is for resolving the conflicts between two or more clients. The present invention, however,

uses such a Hash table for facilitating the search as such the inquiry is to be broken down into various possible combinations of meaningful words. Neither Teare et al nor Wlaschin teaches this alone or in combination thereof. It is believed that none of the prior art references teaches such a way of fuzzy search. To emphasize this feature, claim 1 has been amended to include claim 6, and the claim 6 is thus cancelled.

The applicant would like to correct the view of the examiner' that a query has to be divided into the claimed manner since each language has its own set of meaningful words with respect to claim 6. Here, the meaningful words obtained from the sentence or phrase of the query are various and possible combinations of all characters of the query in a particular way that would make any sense in certain languages. As the query "I would like to find XYZ who works in Beijing for an IT company" in Chinese as given in the specification, it can be broken down into individual characters, and each character is combined with other characters of all possible meaningful words. Such exhausted combinations of characters in the query will enable the complete search, that is, the fuzzy search of the present invention as seen in Fig. 3B. Afterwards, the selection or further determination of the various combinations of words will be conducted by calculating the weight of each result in accordance with the predetermined rules to get the collection of the most possible results as illustrated in Fig. 4B.

In Fig. 3A, the search is conducted to find the exact matching from the database, and there is no need to have each character to be combined with others to form meaningful words or phrases.

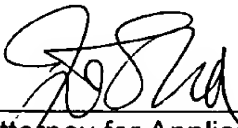
Further, the system of the present invention may identify the language, words, characters of the entered query, such as English and Chinese, and process them separately and jointly. Unlike English or some other languages, Chinese has its unique ways of inputting, that is, based on pure phonetic spelling, or annotation, pure characters, or combination thereof. This is why a corpus of predetermined rules of combination of characters is provided for forming meaningful words from the characters of the entered query. This may also be adopted in other languages.

As noted, Wlaschin teaches a method and apparatus for a physical storage architecture having an improved information storage and retrieval system for a shared file environment. The table of that patent comprises a plurality of rows and columns, and each column has an object identification number, and so on. It fails to teach breaking down of the entered query into meaningful words as the above discussed, and in fact it does not teach a search system or method that would be similar to the present invention for use in the personal and business information search. Thus, it will not add anything to the teaching of Teare et al that fails to teach the particular structure of the hierarchic tree, and it does not teach using Hash table, pointers, etc. as the examiner noted. Therefore, the combination of these two references will not suggest the system and method of the personal and business web cards as claimed.

As discussed above, the present invention should be completely different from the cited Teare et al Patent and Wlaschin Patent. The other cited references do not teach or suggest the present invention either. Therefore, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention is patentable in view of the prior art, and the early allowance of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date

  
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